Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center 2022 Annual Report

Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center

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The Clement and Linda Mcgillicuddy Humanities Center’s mission is to demonstrate the immediacy and applicability of humanities studies by advancing teaching, research and public engagement in the humanities in Maine. It supports programs that foster intellectual curiosity, critical reflection and creative innovation.

Central to the Center’s work is the belief that study of the humanities cultivates compassion across differences, develops empathy and, in addition to providing a sound training in critical thinking, develops the emotional and intellectual agility needed to navigate an increasingly interconnected and complex global landscape.

The Center serves as a locus for humanities research, interdisciplinary collaboration and meaningful conversations among scholars, artists, students and the public through the support of lectures, symposia, panels, performances and exhibitions, as well as individual and collaborative research by students and faculty.

As the humanities constitute not only a cluster of disciplines, but an entire stance toward lifelong learning, the Center further seeks to enrich the experience of humanities education both within and beyond the borders of the public university to citizens of all ages, from K–12 students to Maine’s thriving community of senior citizens.
FROM THE PRESIDENT

In early 2012, the University of Maine Humanities Initiative was awarded a $300,000 grant to launch a full-fledged research center at the university. Shortly thereafter, what would become the Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center was founded with the central mission of promoting “the integral role of the humanities” at UMaine and in the state by “developing synergy among scholarship, research and community engagement.” Now celebrating its tenth anniversary, the MHC has sponsored 26 undergraduate Fellows, received generous funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and given more than 75 awards to faculty in support of research, conference presentations, public events and publications.

In this decade, the Center has helped humanities thrive at UMaine and has contributed significantly to the development of a culture of respect for humanities research. This spring, UMaine was designated as an R1 university by the prestigious Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. The R1 designation signifies “very high research activity,” and the work done by MHC, as outlined in this report, has been critical to our success in achieving and maintaining this status.

Synergistic initiatives complement the Center’s success. For example, the University of Maine Arts Initiative was designed to advance the integral role of the arts in public research institutions. The initiative increases resources and support for the arts, reinforces their significance and enhances visibility on campus and beyond.

Thanks to generous NEH funding, the Center continues to support the development of a digital portal to improve access to Wabanaki historical and cultural resources and archival collections distributed across UMaine. In the future, this portal will grow to include collections curated by several external institutions, expanding its reach and relevance.

New undergraduate humanities fellowships continue to support excellent student scholarship. These include the Richard and Karin Anderson Fellowship, which supported the creation of wonderful artwork by student Haley Santerre ’22, and the new David and Allison Wiggin Fellowship, which will fund a fellowship, with preference for a student from Aroostook County.

As we celebrate this historic year for the Center, Michael Socolow’s term as director comes to an end. I thank Michael for his leadership and dedication over the last two years; his steadfastness during these turbulent, unprecedented times will be an enduring legacy. We now welcome Beth Wiemann as director, and I look forward to the continued growth of the MHC as a beacon of creativity, excellence and scholarship in Maine and beyond.

Sincerely,

Joan Ferrini-Mundy
President of the University of Maine and the University of Maine at Machias
FROM THE DIRECTOR

It’s been a remarkable decade. Ten years ago, in April, 2012, a small group of collaborative faculty guided by Jeff Hecker, then Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, transformed a small humanities initiative into the University of Maine Humanities Center. This year’s Annual Report contains articles about the Center’s history, and notes our 10th Anniversary celebration in Orono in April and our reception at the waterfront home of Advisory Board members Jean and Bob Swan in early June. It’s been an exciting year to cap off a fruitful and rewarding decade.

The vibrancy of the humanities community on campus is everywhere evident, and reminders of our efforts and achievements are becoming more common. For example, shortly before this Annual Report went to press, National Public Radio recognized “Still They Remember Me: Penobscot Transformer Tales, Volume 1,” the collection of traditional Penobscot tales published by Carol A. Dana, Margo Lukens and Conor M. Quinn, as a “Book Pick” for travelers this summer. Margo Lukens not only directed the McGillicuddy Humanities Center (2018–20), but “Still They Remember Me” was supported with a 2021 MHC Faculty Grant Award. You can read more about the wonderful projects supported with Center grants in the pages of this Report.

Our undergraduate Fellows program remains the pride of the Center. This year proved the most competitive application cycle in the program’s history. The Richard and Karin Anderson Fellow, Haley Santerre, completed her project, and we welcomed the inaugural David and Allison Wiggin Fellow, Tom Pinette, to the program. Our students continue to impress with the imaginative creativity and analytical rigor of their projects, and I invite you to view videos of several of the Fellows’ presentations at the Center’s YouTube page.

This coming year begins a year of transition for the McGillicuddy Humanities Center. We are well positioned for the future, having completed a strategic planning process last year and with new ideas and initiatives under consideration. We begin academic year 2022–23 with a new Chair of the Board of Advisors, Tim Garrity, and we thank our outgoing co-Chairs Kathryn Olmstead and Henry Schmelzer, for their ideas, support and guidance over the past several years. Our new humanities specialist, Brian Jansen, will begin his first full academic cycle within the Center, and we note our gratitude toward Karen Sieber for her excellent record as the previous humanities specialist.

And last but certainly not least, I welcome Dr. Beth Wiemann, a long-time supporter of the Center and Faculty Advisory Board member, to the directorship of the Center. Beth will be the first faculty member from music or the performing arts in the role, and I look forward to the fresh direction and new ideas she will bring. The McGillicuddy Humanities Center is well prepared to commence its second decade under such able leadership. We’ll begin that second decade with the 2022–23 MHC symposium theme, “Recovery, Rediscovery, and Resilience: Revisiting Lost Lives and Cultures.”

As I turn over leadership of the Center to Dr. Wiemann, I want to conclude by noting my gratitude to all those who made my two years so enjoyable. Dr. Emily Haddad, the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, proved an encouraging and supportive supervisor, while the Faculty Advisory Board and the
Board of Advisors assisted with excellent ideas, advice and guidance. Matt Mullen and Terri Beyer from the University of Maine Foundation inspired me with their dedication to supporting the humanities. I was lucky to work with two excellent humanities specialists — Karen Sieber and Brian Jansen — and the Fellows consistently inspired me with their enthusiasm, intelligence and energy. None of this would have been possible without the generous support of Clem and Linda McGillicuddy and the Center’s patrons. The biggest single lesson I learned as director ultimately proved to be that the Center is more than a physical location in South Stevens Hall, or an idea that’s matured into an institutional achievement — it’s a community.

The humanistic inquiry and creative activities that inspire, energize, activate and sustain us are collaborative. And I’m confident that the community that created and nurtured this Center to its present standard of excellence will continue to sustain and grow it through its second decade and beyond.

Michael J. Socolow
Director, McGillicuddy Humanities Center
Associate Professor, Department of Communication and Journalism

In 2021, the University of Maine System trustees voted to change the name of C.C. Little Hall to Beryl Warner Williams Hall. Beryl Warner Williams ’35, ’40G, ’72 Hon. was the first Black woman to earn a degree in mathematics at UMaine. Williams Hall houses the UMaine Department of Modern Languages and Classics and the Department of Psychology.
Few things in life are as enjoyable as reading a good book, watching a great film or listening to a beautiful piece of music. Yet rarely do we consider such pleasures as experiencing “the humanities” — that is, the acquisition of knowledge, the encouragement of creativity and critical thinking and the spark of imagination that make us feel more alive and human. In these ways, and others, the humanities have tangible and direct impacts in our lives.

The Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center’s 2021–2022 symposium featured events and programs exploring the ways humanistic inquiry, and education in humanities disciplines, shape our lived environment. Whether it’s English majors applying their writing skills to communicate professionally, history majors harnessing their knowledge of how to analyze documents or philosophy majors using ethical reasoning in a variety of diverse careers, the humanities provide students with the tools they need to develop their professional careers while becoming active and engaged citizens. Too often we take the humanities for granted, treating them almost as though they’re atmospheric. “Humanities: Impact in Real Life” made the influence of the humanities visible to audiences on our campus and in our community.
MHC Hosts Fall Poetry Pop-Up

On Saturday, Oct. 23, the McGillicuddy Humanities Center hosted an outdoor open-mic poetry reading at the Orono Village Green amphitheater, located behind the Orono Public Library. The event welcomed poets from the university and the community, and featured hot apple cider and other fall refreshments.

Ten poets, including students from professor Kathleen Ellis’s Introduction to Creative Writing and Reading Poetry classes, UMaine faculty, and community members had the chance to read their work.

The Visitor
Natalie McCarthy
Elementary education major from Lincoln, Maine

Watering the garden in the warm summer air.
Crickets for company as the sun awakens.
A cascade of water from an old, green hose, cold, careless, clear.
The flowers cheer.
A hummingbird arrives, iridescent and restless, bathing in the spray of a waterfall.

Speak
Annabella Harrenstein
Psychology/sociology double major from Plympton, Massachusetts

When I want to speak, the words always leave me; breathlessly stumbling, it’s a losing battle. Speak, it shouldn’t be so hard. How can you be so weak?
Thoughts antagonize me; turn them off so I can be free.
Voice grotesque and alien, a distortion conceived by my own cruelty.
Unrelenting, unwavering, the ominous void within keeps me meek.
The external becoming a euphemism for the internal.
Exhausted and weak, silence now a mask slipped off and cracked among the debris.
Waves wash me away in a perpetual cycle of monotony, swallowing me only to beach me on the same coarse sand.
Speak, and maybe I’ll be able to sink under the upset.
As the sun rises and falls, I try to silence this monstrosity.
Maybe, as the sun sets, the waves will crash at my command.
Speak, so I don’t wreck on the shoreline of regret.
On April 10, the McGillicuddy Humanities Center hosted a reception in the Innovative Media Research and Commercialization (IMRC) Center on campus to celebrate the culmination of its first decade. Supporters of the Center, Fellows, Board Members, faculty and community members enjoyed a program that began with professor Jeff Hecker recounting the formation of the original humanities initiative while he was Dean of the College of the Liberal Arts and Sciences. Professor Jennifer Moxley then reviewed the initiation and development of the Center’s Fellows Program, and two Fellows — Delaney Burns (‘22) and Haley Santerre (‘22) — spoke about their displayed artwork. Dean Emily Haddad concluded the program by thanking everyone for their support of the humanities and announcing that the Center’s next director will be Professor of Music Beth Wiemann. The reception allowed Board members and supporters to meet the Fellows and discuss their projects. The inaugural David and Allison Wiggin Humanities Fellow, Tom Pinette, met David Wiggin (‘64 and ‘67), who was in attendance. The Wiggin Fellowship supports an undergraduate from Aroostook County.
From top left, clockwise: Selections from MHC Undergraduate Fellow Delaney Burns’s woodblock print series Pinus longaeva; Dean Emily Haddad announces the incoming director of the Center; Jeff Hecker recounts the formation of the original humanities initiative that would become the MHC; selections from 2022 Richard and Karin Anderson Fellow Haley Santerre’s paintings ask, “Are the Gods to Blame?”; Director Michael Socolow
It started with a series of discussions. Convened by a group of collegial humanities scholars at the University of Maine, the small community then evolved into an initiative with the support of then Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Jeff Hecker.

Becoming a fully realized, university-recognized academic research center required both a specific developmental vision and an opportunity to secure financial resources. And during the 2011–12 academic year, vision met opportunity and a new center was established.

April 23, 2012, what today is known as the McGillicuddy Humanities Center was officially launched with the announcement of awardees of a new internal grant competition at UMaine. As part of the Blue Sky Strategic Plan, proposals had been solicited by the President’s Office in a competition called the Presidential Request for Visions of University Excellence (PRE-VUE) Program.

“W e had been working at the initiative for a year or more, referring to it as the University of Maine Humanities Initiative, when the call for PRE-VUE proposals was released. We realized that this was the perfect vehicle for kick-starting the Humanities Center as well as advancing the university toward its goal,” said Hecker.

The humanities proposal team leader was Scott See, Libra Professor of History, who worked closely with Hecker and Associate Dean Amy Fried. April 23, 2012, the President’s Office announced that the proposal, officially titled “University of Maine Humanities Center: Humanities for the 21st Century,” would be awarded a $300,000 grant to fund the transformation of the humanities initiative into a full-fledged research center.

University units represented in the original proposal included the UMaine Humanities Initiative; College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; departments of English, History, Modern Languages and Classics, Philosophy and Art; Maine Folklife Center; National Poetry Foundation; and Canadian-American Center.

“The PRE-VUE award will be used to establish a University of Maine Humanities Center to promote the integral role of the humanities and the university in the state by developing synergy among scholarship, research and community engagement,” the announcement stated.

The following summer, See turned over the new center to Justin W olf, then associate professor of art, and the impressive record of development and growth that would occur over the next decade began in earnest. Working closely with the Dean’s Office and the University of Maine Foundation, an initial Board of
Advisors was assembled, and new opportunities to fund humanities scholarship, events, community outreach and creative and performing arts endeavors began.

In its first five years, the Humanities Center compiled an impressive record of achievement. It convened community events and supported numerous diverse faculty projects, including the creative fiction and studies of poetry by Carlos Villacorta Gonzales, a faculty member in Spanish; "Art and Science," an interdisciplinary collaboration between Andy Mauery, associate professor of art, and her colleague in genomics Sally Dixon Molloy; and Michael Socolow’s award-winning history of Olympic broadcasting, "Six Minutes in Berlin."

The Center developed an engaging social media presence, worked with the University of Maine Foundation to convene a Patrons Circle of supporters and began publishing annual reports detailing its activities.

The second half of its initial decade saw the Center receive a transformative gift from Clement ('64) and Linda McGillicuddy. The McGillicuddys had supported the Center in its initial development, and in early 2017, they discussed new ideas with then director Jennifer Moxley, professor of English. The idea Moxley proposed involved funding an undergraduate Humanities Fellows program that would offer financial support for select undergraduate students to pursue projects in the areas in which they were passionate. The discussions led to a transformative, naming gift for the Center.

In 2017, the Center celebrated its first five years by announcing the gift and its new name — The Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center — and launching the Fellows Program.

The first Fellows were named in 2018, and since then 26 UMaine undergraduates have been selected for a McGillicuddy Humanities Center Fellowship. The projects completed, and the professional trajectories launched by the Fellowship, already constitute a remarkable record.

Fellows have gone on to graduate study at UMaine, Boston College, Harvard University and Duke University; have published chapbooks of poetry composed during the Fellowship; and have showcased art exhibitions. One Fellow, Sarah Penney (Class of 2021), became the first alumna of the program to join the Center’s Advisory Board in 2022.

The record of the McGillicuddy Humanities Center in supporting excellence in humanities research has been reflected in additional areas. In 2021, Margo Lukens, professor of English, was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to support development of a centralized digital portal that will improve access to Wabanaki historical and cultural resources and archival collections currently distributed across UMaine and, in the future, to incorporate collections curated by several external institutions. The interdisciplinary Wabanaki Resources Portal project was originally assembled while Lukens led the Humanities Center, with the essential assistance of the center’s then humanities specialist Karen Sieber.

The Wabanaki Resources Portal project represented the Center’s first successful NEH grant.

“The McGillicuddy Humanities Center supports the innovative work of our faculty and students, and shines a light on their accomplishments. It has succeeded beyond the modest ideas that a few of us kicked around well over a decade ago. I couldn’t be more proud of where the Center is now and look forward to seeing how it will evolve over the next decade,” said Hecker.

“The Center’s support has been vital to the health of the humanities at UMaine,” said Emily Haddad, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences since 2014. “Thanks to the vision of Jeff Hecker and his colleagues, and to the generosity of Clem and Linda McGillicuddy, the McGillicuddy Humanities Center is a point of great pride for our campus.”

“I’m enormously grateful to everyone — our Board of Advisors, our Faculty Advisory Group, the wonderful Fellows, our former directors, the dean, our donors and supporters, and of course, Clem and Linda McGillicuddy — who played a role in establishing such a remarkable and successful first decade for the McGillicuddy Humanities Center,” said director Michael Socolow.
Speaking to Citizens, Connecting with Audiences

In November, the McGillicuddy Humanities Center sponsored a panel that asked: How might politicians, pundits, journalists, scholars and other social and cultural leaders best connect with the audiences they need to address? Bringing together a professional political communicator, a Maine-based journalist and a professor of political philosophy, the panel described how skills learned from the humanities — such as how to conduct interviews and answer questions, how to speak and write clearly and how to engage audiences in democratic processes — play a vital role in their work. Moderated by Robert Ballingall, assistant professor of political science at UMaine, the event featured special guests Victoria Bonney, director of communications for U.S. Rep. Chellie Pingree, and New York Times bestselling historian and journalist Colin Woodard.

Reaching Readers

In December, the McGillicuddy Humanities Center brought together three nationally recognized UMaine scholars to discuss the process of planning, researching and composing their new books, and how they were able to gain the interest of the publishers who eventually supported and published their projects. Professor of Political Science Amy Fried’s new co-authored book, titled “At War with Government: How Conservatives Weaponized Distrust from Goldwater to Trump,” was published by Columbia University Press; Professor of English Margo Lukens’s new co-authored book, titled “Still They Remember Me: Penobscot Transformer Tales, Volume 1,” was published by University of Massachusetts Press; and Professor Emeritus of Sociology Kyriacos Markides’s new book, titled “The Accidental Immigrant: A Quest for Spirit in a Skeptical Age,” was published by Hamilton Books. All three books appeared in academic year 2021-2022, and all three authors employed tools drawn from the humanities — historical inquiry, thoughtful reflection and understandings of perspective and connection — to develop their ideas and complete their projects.
The 2022 Alan Miller Fund Visiting Journalist was Michael Shephard, politics editor at the Bangor Daily News, where he leads coverage of state government and political campaigns. In a talk on the intersections between local and national politics that was cosponsored by the McGillicuddy Humanities Center, the Department of Political Science and the Department of Communication and Journalism, Shephard reflected on the lessons of recent political campaigns in Maine. A Maine native and UMaine alumnus, Shephard won the Bob Drake Young Writer’s Award from the Maine Press Association while working as a reporter for the Kennebec Journal from 2012–2015.

Keep up with the latest MHC events, Fellows and presentations

Learn more about the Center’s events and projects, its community collaborations and its work supporting the vitality of the humanities on campus, in Maine and across the country. Follow us on social media or subscribe to our monthly newsletter. Visit umaine.edu/mhc/newsletter to subscribe.
UMaine Foundation Celebrates MHC Anniversary

On June 2, Robert ’68 and Jean Swan generously hosted an additional 10th anniversary celebration event at their beautiful home in Yarmouth, Maine. Bob and Jean welcomed an audience of over 50 faculty, Fellows and MHC supporters before a brief program featuring remarks by Director Michael Socolow, Dean Emily Haddad and President Joan Ferrini-Mundy. Past MHC Undergraduate Fellows Stephanie Tillotson ’22 and Sarah Penney ’21 spoke about their experience in the program. The event also featured a performance by a University of Maine School of Performing Arts flute trio under the direction of Elizabeth Downing.
2022–2023 Symposium Theme Will Revisit Lost Lives and Cultures

The University of Maine sits on Marsh Island in the homeland of the Penobscot Nation, where issues of water and territorial rights, and encroachment upon sacred sites, are ongoing. This simple fact is recognized not only in the University’s land acknowledgment, but in its commitment to fostering a more robust understanding of the complex and multifaceted meanings inherent in such encroachment. As a community, we are living on lands taken from dispossessed peoples and we must recognize our obligation to making visible and present that which time, memory and power have sought to obscure.

The process by which history obscures and hides is not unique to Maine, or the United States. It is all too common to forget — or ignore, or erase — the lives and stories that would offer fresh opportunities for reflection and reconsideration. Numerous scholars at the University of Maine are engaged in surfacing and describing lives and cultures, and reconstructing stories from archives and memories. In 2022–2023 the McGillicuddy Humanities Center plans to spotlight this work in our annual symposium, titled, “Recovery, Rediscovery, and Resilience: Revisiting Lost Lives and Cultures.” The MHC will produce and coordinate events, offer publication support and encourage projects related to rediscovering and re-presenting lives deserving of memory. Much of this work is already occurring on campus, but has not been brought together; for example, scholars are involved in the integration of archeological data with Indigenous perspectives to interpret the past; others have been involved in the recovery of musical compositions from the Holocaust; others explore the abolitionist tradition in New England, while still others map often-overlooked Holocaust sites.

Next year’s annual symposium affords the Center an opportunity to highlight University of Maine scholars dedicating their careers to telling stories obscured but nevertheless traceable in history. It’s important work that remains critical in our contemporary world, and we’re proud to support and promote it.

Archival photographs selected from the UMaine library’s Digital Commons offer a glimpse of campus life in 1966 (left) and 1933 (right).
Current McGillicuddy Humanities Center Fellows in spring 2022. From left to right: Benjamin Allen, April Messier, Sherralyn Robbins and Tom Pinette.

The Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Undergraduate Fellows

The Fellows program offers junior and senior year students the support to develop individual humanities research or creative projects, work collaboratively with their peers, participate in interdisciplinary humanities programs and gain professional skills. Fellows attend, help plan and promote the Center’s programs, which helps connect them and the Center to their peers, faculty and the public. Fellows also act as student ambassadors for the Center’s mission, both on campus and in communities beyond.

Each student works with a faculty advisor, as well as with the MHC staff and other Fellows, to develop and hone their research for public presentation. At the culmination of the Fellowship, they are required to share their findings or creative works in an MHC showcase event. Most Fellows also create additional outputs for their projects, from poetry chapbooks and journal articles to gallery shows and workshops.

Research proposals are due by the March 17 and Oct. 17 semi-annual deadlines. Currently the MHC funds eight total Fellows simultaneously, with new cohorts of four rotating in and out each semester. Fellows are awarded $8,000 over two consecutive semesters for their work.

As of spring 2022, 26 students have been selected to join the MHC Fellows program.
Fall 2021–Spring 2022 MHC Student Fellows

Luke Miller

Luke Miller, a history and economics double major from Tewksbury, Massachusetts, spent 2021–22 exploring “The Lessons of Homelessness and Its History,” studying national, state and local policies and data on homelessness under the supervision of sociologist Brian Pitman to better understand how the needs of the unhoused could be better addressed. Miller will graduate in December 2022 and intends to pursue a joint M.B.A./J.D.; his project also fueled an interest in politics — he’s interned with a state representative, joined his town’s municipal democratic committee, and served as a delegate at the 2022 Massachusetts Democratic Convention in Worcester.

Sabrina Paetow

Sabrina Paetow, a sociology and anthropology double major from Topsham, Maine, was the recipient of the outstanding graduating senior award in both the Department of Anthropology and the Department of Sociology. Her McGillicuddy Humanities Center Fellowship project, prepared under the supervision of political science professor Amy Fried, formed the basis of her Honors thesis, “The Defense of American Exceptionalism: President Trump’s COVID-19 Rhetoric.” Paetow’s work drew on grounded theory and content analysis to examine the political rhetoric President Donald Trump used in the Coronavirus Task Force press briefings during the early phases of the COVID-19 pandemic. Paetow is deferring for a year, but she will begin a Ph.D. in sociology at UMass-Boston in fall 2023.
Stephanie Tillotson

Stephanie Tillotson, from Cumberland Foreside, Maine, graduated in May 2022 with a degree in Spanish and a minor in legal studies. Tillotson, who was named the outstanding graduating senior in the Department of Modern Languages and Classics, was the first student from the Department of Modern Languages and Classics to be awarded a McGillicuddy Humanities Center Fellowship. Her project, “Making Foreign Language Education Accessible through Spanish Animation,” prototyped a series of animated, Spanish learning videos featuring the adventures of a dog named Moxie, inspired by her own dog. Having completed her bachelor’s degree in just three years, Tillotson is taking a year off from her studies, with plans to apply to dual-degree J.D./M.A. programs that align with her goals of working in immigration law/policy with a focus on Latin America. She is currently in the process of securing a summer internship working as an immigration case aide in Portland, Maine.

Heather Webb

The first nursing student — and the first nontraditional student — to receive a McGillicuddy Humanities Center Undergraduate Fellowship was Heather Webb, a longtime English teacher transitioning to the field of nursing. Webb’s project, “Writing My Way Through Career Transition,” documented that transition through a series of interconnected essays and creative works, including erasure poetry. This summer, Webb begins her partnership, the final and longest clinical rotation of her nursing program, at Northern Lights Eastern Maine Medical Center Emergency Department. She will return to UMaine in fall 2022 to finish her nursing degree. Webb says that this fellowship year allowed her to understand the use of personal narrative as both a kind of research and as a meaning-making activity — and to ask questions about how medical humanities programs might make space for nurses.
Global Perspectives for Humanities Explorations Awards

The Global Perspectives for Humanities Explorations Fund was established at the University of Maine Foundation in 2018 and has been made possible by alumni and friends of the New England Universities in Salzburg Study Abroad Program in honor of the program founder, Dr. Josef Roggenbauer, professor emeritus of German, Department of Modern Languages and Classics. The fund was launched by Tracey Graffam-Dickson ’93 and Jessica Canatsey ’92, two friends who met at UMaine and shared a “life changing experience” when they participated in a travel abroad program in Salzburg. They believed experiencing a foreign culture was transformative in their lives, and so the women teamed up to initiate a fund providing opportunities for today’s undergraduates to live their own cultural adventure. Other donors have since joined in this initiative as well, and the funds invested will generate awards and life-changing memories far into the future.

The Global Perspectives for Humanities Explorations Fund provides scholarships for study-abroad opportunities. While the COVID-19 pandemic suspended the granting of study abroad awards in 2020 and 2021, the MHC, in conjunction with the Department of Modern Languages and Classics, Office of Major Scholarships and Office of International Programs, was able to resume the award program for 2022. This year’s awardees include Erica Desjardins, an international affairs major in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences from Bangor, Maine, who spent spring 2022 studying at The American University in Bulgaria, in Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria. Ruth Lewandowski, an English major in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences from Portland, Maine, is studying at the University of East Anglia in Norwich, England, United Kingdom. Neily Raymond, an English and philosophy double major in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences from Hermon, Maine, is studying at the University of Oxford, in the United Kingdom. Lauren Worrick, a marine sciences major in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture from Aurora, Colorado, spent the spring 2022 semester studying at the University of Costa Rica, in San Ramón, Costa Rica.

“I’m realizing how lucky I am that my home college, Lady Margaret Hall, is on the outskirts of the city — the gardens are extensive, in rampant bloom, and everything smells of pollen. I might be spoiled for April in Maine. In any case, I’ve plenty of opportunities to study outdoors. My courses this term are one-on-one tutorials in Playwriting & Dramaturgy and Victorian Literature & the Environment.” – Neily Raymond, writing from Oxford
“The McGillicuddy Humanities Center is the physical manifestation of intellectual support for the bright minds on this campus. Luckily for me, this support means I can explore the problems I see in the world and uncover how we, as academics, can effect social change and help others.”

– Luke Miller, 2021–22 MHC Fellow
Spring 2022–Fall 2022 MHC Student Fellows

**Benjamin Allen**

Incoming Fellow Benjamin Allen, an English and philosophy major from Johnston, Rhode Island, will spend the next academic year exploring “The Embodied Performance of Tourette’s Syndrome in Communication and the Academic Environment.” Allen will draw on his own lived experience, as well as contemporary scholarly research in the fields of disability studies, communication theory, intersectional theory and performance theory, to examine how tic disorders, and specifically Tourette’s Syndrome (TS), are predominantly performative and can irreversibly impact the phenomenal experience of those afflicted—especially as it relates to stressful situations in academia and the classroom experience. Allen will be advised by Dr. Carla Billitteri, associate professor in the Department of English.

**April Messier**

April Messier, an English major minorin in creative writing from Old Town, Maine, will spend her Fellowship analyzing “The Power of Words: Tracing Poetry’s Roots in Magic.” Messier became interested in researching poetry’s roots in religious ritual and magical practice after learning about practices used during the Medieval period in a class with Dr. Sarah Harlan-Haughey. While Messier plans to gain insight from many disciplines and time periods, she will be doing a deep dive on the poet H.D.’s works. Her end product will be a prosimetrum piece (a poetic piece of writing combining prose and verse) that explores the common threads that surface in her research. She will be advised by Jennifer Moxley, professor in the Department of English and former director of the McGillicuddy Humanities Center.

**Tom Pinette**

The MHC’s inaugural Wiggin Fellow is Tom Pinette from Limestone, Maine. A history major minoring in religious studies, Pinette’s project is tentatively titled, “‘This Land is Your Land and This Land is My Land’: Conflict between the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Nations and the Portland Diocese of Maine over Land-use as a Remnant of Colonial Attitudes.” His work, which includes extensive archival research, seeks to compile and analyze instances of conflict between the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Nations and the Portland Diocese of Maine, with a specific focus on disputes from 1900 to the present day. At the culmination of his research, he hopes to coordinate a roundtable discussion between tribal citizens, UMaine faculty, the Portland Diocese and himself, to create a better dialogue about the legacy of the Catholic Church’s infringement upon Wabanaki tribes’ rights. John Bear Mitchell from the Native American Studies program is advising Pinette’s research Fellowship.

**Sherralyn Robbins**

Sherralyn Robbins is an English major minorin in legal studies from Brewer, Maine. Robbins’s research proposal title, “You Write Like a Girl,” was inspired by a statement her own middle school teacher made after reviewing her writing. Throughout her time at UMaine, she has become increasingly interested in the gendered and linguistically biased structures of academia. For her Fellowship, she is examining the historical perspectives that brought about these standards, preparing a case study focusing on her own writing, and initiating dialogues between herself and female scholars of writing and gender studies. Paige Mitchell, lecturer in English and director of the University of Maine Writing Center, will be advising Robbins’s research.
Fall 2021 Faculty Grants

Hollie Adams (English)
“Morley Callaghan and Canadian Literary Modernism”

Hollie Adams’s research on Morley Callaghan, one of Canada’s best-known modernist fiction writers, will comprise part of her larger study of Canadian literary modernism. Adams, an assistant professor of creative writing and Canadian literature, recently travelled to York University in Toronto to research in the files of Morley’s son Barry; while in Toronto she also conducted research at the Modern Literature and Culture Research Centre at Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson University).

Joseph Arel (Philosophy)
“Philosophy in Maine”

Joseph Arel, part-time assistant professor in the Department of Philosophy, was awarded a grant in support of his “Philosophy in Maine” project. “Philosophy in Maine” will produce an online magazine of philosophical writing aimed at a general (public) readership. This project is “devoted to developing and sharing philosophical ideas that are applied specifically to the state of Maine.” Arel, who previously directed a public philosophy program at Northern Arizona University, is the founder and General Editor of localphilosophy.org, a nonprofit public philosophy organization that focuses on engaging philosophers and philosophical thinking within particular communities.

Margaret “Mimi” Killinger (Honors, Rezendes Preceptor for the Arts)
“Joanna Paul: The Otago Years, 1977–1983”

Margaret Killinger, associate professor in the Honors College and Rezendes Preceptor for the Arts, will apply her McGillicuddy Humanities Center faculty award toward travel and research for her “Joanna Paul: The Otago Years, 1977–1983” project. Killinger’s immediate research will focus on the years Joanna Margaret Paul (1945–2003) spent as artist and poet in Dunedin, New Zealand, from 1977–1983. Paul is remembered in New Zealand as “one of our most original (and most unsung) poets, a painter who’d never really received her due, an artist in the fullest sense of the term,” and Killinger’s work will investigate Paul’s coming of age as a public artist and an intriguing figure within the New Zealand women’s art movement.
Brian Pitman (Sociology)
“Addressing Homelessness and Building Community in the Greater Bangor Area”

Brian Pitman, assistant professor of sociology, was awarded a grant for his “Addressing Homelessness and Building Community in the Greater Bangor Area” project. The grant was used to initiate community conversations — both inside and outside the classroom and university, based on shared reading experiences — that raise awareness amongst different stakeholders in the Greater Bangor area about how to care for each other during this worsening housing crisis. The project included a community reading group to develop more comprehensive understandings of homelessness and the housing crisis, and community and university forums on homelessness that amplify the experiences of those directly impacted by this crisis. Pitman is collaborating with several community partners, including the Greater Bangor Housing Coalition, on the reading groups and events. As part of the project, Pitman hosted a Zoom panel of un- and underhoused individuals in the Greater Bangor Area, titled “Living Unhoused: The Realities of Unhoused People in Bangor.”

Beth Wiemann (School of Performing Arts
Division of Music)
Guerilla Opera Residency

Professor Beth Wiemann of the School of Performing Arts was granted an award to support performances of a new work by the Boston opera company Guerilla Opera at the University of Maine. Professor Wiemann’s project is a collaboration with Guerilla Opera and the Nichols Museum in Boston on a site-specific chamber opera that premiered June 3–5, 2022. The new work is based on the life of Rose Standish Nichols, a suffragette and WWI-era peace activist, with a libretto by Wiemann based on materials in the Museum collection and its publications. As part of the development process for this work, Wiemann and Guerilla Opera hosted a residency for the company at UMaine March 4–5, 2022, both to present scenes of the new piece in workshop form, and to record parts of the score for use in the multimedia performances later in the year.

Beth Wiemann’s world premiere opera paints a portrait of Rose Standish Nichols, a professional woman at the turn of the century and highlights her efforts to effect change through the Women’s Peace Movement, Women’s Suffrage and in her professional work as a landscape designer. Photo by Timothy Gurczack.
Robert A. Ballingall (Political Science)
“The (Utopian) City in Greek Political Thought”

Political scientist Robert Ballingall was awarded a grant to present his paper “The (Utopian) City in Greek Political Thought” at the upcoming meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA) in Montreal in September 2022. Ballingall’s project, of which this conference presentation comprises one part, involves research for a chapter that he will be contributing to “The Blackwell Companion to Cities in the Greco-Roman World,” edited by Andries Zuiderhoek and Miko Flohr.

Hao Hong (Philosophy, Honors)
“Things and What is Beyond All Things in Neo-Daoism”

Hao Hong, assistant professor of philosophy and honors, was awarded a grant to purchase materials and support research for his “Things and What is Beyond All Things in Neo-Daoism” project. Professor Hong’s paper is currently planned to be published in “The Routledge Companion to Chinese Philosophy,” edited by Brook Ziporyn and Stephen Walker.

Lisa K. Neuman (Anthropology, Native American Studies)
Raising Indigenous Voices in Academia and Society Conference

Lisa K. Neuman was awarded a grant to support co-sponsorship and other costs related to hosting the RIVAS 2022 (Raising Indigenous Voices in Academia and Society) Conference at Wells Conference Center at the University of Maine on October 23–24, 2022.

Kara A. Peruccio (History, Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies)
“Suffrage Mediterranean Style”

Kara Peruccio was awarded a grant to complete necessary archival research for a book manuscript project tentatively titled, “Suffrage Mediterranean Style.” The project comparatively analyzes women’s suffrage campaigns in Egypt, Italy, Spain, and Turkey and their affiliation with the International Woman Suffrage Alliance during the interwar period.

Gregory Zaro (Anthropology, Climate Change Institute)
“Building Interactive 360 Experiences to Enhance Student Learning and Community Engagement”

Gregory Zaro was awarded a grant for the technological equipment required to produce videos as a component of his “Building Interactive 360 Experiences to Enhance Student Learning and Community Engagement” project. This summer, Zaro will travel to Zadar, Croatia, where he will record interactive 360-degree content related to his Croatian research that will facilitate student/community engagement via desktop and VR (Virtual Reality) tools of interaction.
A McGillicuddy Humanities Center faculty grant will allow anthropologist Gregory Zaro to bring his archaeology field research course in Croatia back to students in Maine.
King Chair Fellowship Addresses Inequities in Internship Opportunities

Caroline Bicks, Stephen E. King Chair in Literature at UMaine, and Kathryn Swacha, assistant professor of English, started a new internship fellowship program designed to offer students funding to pursue unpaid internships. Five students are currently recipients of the donor-funded Stephen E. King Chair Internship Fellowship, which pays students between $1,500 and $2,500, depending on weekly hourly commitments, for intern positions that would otherwise be unpaid.

The King Chair Internship Fellowship addresses inequities in unpaid internships, which can reinforce social disparities by financially marginalizing students from participating. The program gives student interns the chance to gain work experience in their prospective professions and give back to organizations doing important social justice and community work.

Concurrent with their internship, Fellowship recipients take an English course with Swacha, Field Experience in Professional Writing, which introduces students to effective professional writing strategies. It provides students opportunities to workshop their internship writing with their peers, helping them make connections between their internship work and their larger studies, and mentoring them about how to leverage their internship toward future employment or graduate school.

Stephen King Visits UMaine English Classes

UMaine’s most famous alumnus, Stephen King ’70, twice returned to campus in fall 2021 to meet with two groups of English majors. King discussed his memoir, “On Writing,” with one group, and, with the other discussed his adaptation of his book “Lisey’s Story” as an Apple TV+ miniseries. He was invited back to campus by UMaine English professor and King Chair Caroline Bicks. As one of the students remarked in response to meeting King, “This was easily the coolest experience of my life.”
For the Peterses, MHC Support is Personal

They arrived in Orono in 1965. "We’re children of the ’60s," says Sandy Merrill Peters, who met her husband John Peters at the University of Maine, where they both graduated in 1969. John was an economics major, while Sandy studied English. Both are Maine natives. "I grew up in a very small town outside Bangor — Stetson is the name of it," Sandy says with a laugh. "Not many people even know where it is." John drove north from Waterville to Orono to embark on his college years.

Sandy fondly recalls the opportunities offered on campus in that era, including a particularly memorable class taught by Julius Seelye Bixler, a respected theologian and philosopher. Bixler had served as president of Colby College, and in retirement was teaching a philosophy course at the University of Maine. He had traveled the world and personally knew some of the philosophers whose readings appeared on the syllabus. "That was just an amazing course for me," Sandy remembers.

Sandy Merrill and John Peters met sophomore year, began dating junior year, and were married shortly after graduation. After a short stint in Connecticut, the two felt the pull to return to Maine. They soon returned to campus to complete graduate degrees — Sandy in education and John in economics. When John accepted a position with Central Maine Power, the young couple moved to Augusta. Sandy taught English at Winslow High School as John’s career in the utilities industry progressed.

Soon they moved to China, Maine, where their three children Christopher (1974), Greg (1978) and Stephanie (1980) were born. Sandy then worked in guidance for the Waterville High Adult Ed program. With John changing careers, they moved to Brunswick in 1982, where they raised their two sons and daughter.

After retiring from teaching in 1999, Sandy’s experiences with children and parents led to a new career assisting families involved in high conflict divorce
for an organization, Home to Home. “I developed a workshop and a coordinating text titled ‘Caught in the Middle: to Survive and Thrive’ for parents involved with Home to Home,” she explains, “to help them understand the issues surrounding their children involved in the conflict.”

Sandy and John Peters remain grateful to the University of Maine for introducing them to each other and launching them on their successful careers, and in 2016 they established the Sandra Merrill Peters ’69 and John G. Peters ’69 Humanities Scholarship Fund to provide financial assistance to a deserving UMaine first-year undergraduate student majoring in a humanities field. Two years earlier, Sandy had joined the Advisory Board of the McGillicuddy Humanities Center as it began its developmental phase, and she’s remained an active and engaged presence since.

At a Board meeting in 2020, Sandy offered a new idea for the Center to consider. It was based on her and John’s experience as a “host family” for students from nearby Bowdoin College. “You can put your name in and they’ll match a student with a family and that family provides however much contact the student wants,” she explains. The Peterses developed a strong bond with an undergraduate from Sweden, hosting him and his family at their home, and sending their son over to Sweden to stay with his family, and to this day — decades later — they remain in touch. Sandy wondered if a similar mentorship or guidance program for McGillicuddy Humanities Center Fellows might be beneficial.

Students would be offered guidance and mentorship by Board members, and Board Members would get to meet and work with the Center’s excellent undergraduates. They could develop friendships drawn from the mentoring relationship, and help enrich both the lives of the mentors and mentees.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the idea has remained on pause. But with the introduction of efficacious vaccines and promising therapeutics, and the widespread resumption of in-person on-campus activities, the Center’s initial test of the “adopt-a-Fellow” was unofficially piloted in 2022. Haley Santerre, the inaugural Richard and Karin Anderson Fellow, met with the Andersons on April 11, 2022, and gifted them a painting from her Fellowship project. It was a lovely moment, and illustrated the value of connection between our Board and our Fellows. The evening before, David Wiggin, the donor of the David ’64, ’67G and Alison ’71 Wiggin Humanities Fellowship Fund, was introduced to Tom Pinette from Limestone, Maine, the inaugural Wiggin Fellow.

These initial meetings represent the kickoff of the “adopt-a-Fellow” program, and today the Sandra Merrill Peters and John G. Peters Humanities Fellowship Fund provides support to a Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center Undergraduate Fellow who is from Maine. The advice, counsel, and experience our Board members might volunteer represents yet another valuable resource for Fellows in the future. The McGillicuddy Humanities Center Fellows program, Sandy notes, is already financially supportive, but it can further develop through collaboration and encouragement on the personal level — by helping Fellows pursue their career goals through guidance and networking with Board members.

It’s been 57 years since Sandy Merrill and John Peters arrived in Orono and 52 years since they were married. Despite tempting offers to relocate to other states, the Peterses decided to stay in the state they loved, where two of their children and several grandchildren remain nearby. And they both have demonstrated their appreciation for the University of Maine in numerous ways.

The University of Maine Foundation and the McGillicuddy Humanities Center appreciates the commitment the Peterses have made to support students arriving in Orono just as they did 57 years ago. And as the “adopt-a-Fellow” program demonstrates, our Advisory Board continues to comprise a valued and important component of our Center’s vitality and success. We’re glad Sandy and John met here all those years ago, and we’re grateful for their dedication to assisting our promising humanities students as they begin their careers and move forward in their lives’ journey.
Donald Beith, associate professor in the UMaine Department of Philosophy, is the inaugural recipient of the Wickham Skinner “Making Things Better” Award, to be granted each year to recognize a faculty member whose recent scholarly accomplishments have contributed substantially to the humanities. The Wickham Skinner Award was endowed by, named for, and honors Harvard Business School professor, philanthropist, and University of Maine System Board of Trustees member C. Wickham “Wick” Skinner, who died in 2019.

Beith’s research focuses on environmental philosophy with an emphasis on issues of humanity and ethicality in the face of various environmental questions and problems — especially those of climate change, technological “progress,” and evolution. In 2018, Ohio University Press published his book “The Birth of Sense,” which examines how organisms, persons, and interbodily systems develop their sense dynamically over time. This debut book received wide acclaim and has situated Beith as both one of today’s most well-respected authors in the field of environmental philosophy and as a scholar committed to interdisciplinary thought and research.

At UMaine, Beith has been forging cross-disciplinary research and action-oriented relationships via the George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, and the UMaine Climate Action Plan Committee. One notable research project arising from such collaborations is his community-informed research project “Cultivating Ecological Virtues,” which considers both the means and the challenges of correcting environmentally problematic habits. He has presented this work in public and university settings, including the Mitchell Center, the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve, and the YorkReadyfor100% climate group.

Beith has also significantly shaped the UMaine Department of Philosophy, by developing new courses, including “Environmental Philosophy,” “Environmental Justice,” and “Life, Technology, and Evolution.” Beith also created an interdisciplinary Environmental Ethics minor that weaves together courses in the humanities and the sciences, and “aims to provide students with ethical frameworks, multicultural awareness and a philosophical grasp of environmental justice issues pertaining to the Penobscot River, the state of Maine and beyond.”

Matching the core spirit of the Wickham Skinner “Making Things Better” Humanities Fund, Beith stands out in the UMaine community for his deep commitment to bringing the fruits of his research life to bear on how life ought to be lived and how we can help to make our surrounding world a better place by doing so.
In Support of Our Mission

Our Mission:

The Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center (MHC) demonstrates the immediacy and applicability of humanities studies by advancing teaching, research and public engagement in the humanities in Maine.

Clement and Linda McGillicuddy support the Humanities Center through a fund they established in 2017 at the University of Maine Foundation. The McGillicuddys are committed to “giving back” to a state that means a great deal to their family.

Clem, a 1964 graduate of UMaine and Houlton native, explains, “The University of Maine exposed me to many new situations. Many of my courses at UMaine, unrelated to my major, contributed to my curiosity and created a foundation for lifelong learning.” He is especially appreciative that the Center’s outreach extends well beyond classroom learning and opens new horizons for high school students and other Maine citizens.

Through the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic, Don Beith led contemplative nature walks with students through the University Forest in Orono.
MHC Gifts, Endowments and Funds

Donors have made gifts and pledges, and contributed their vision, time and expertise, as well as operating funds and sponsorships to support MHC activities.

Fundraising

The McGillicuddy Humanities Center Endowment Fund was created to support the MHC mission. Launched in 2010, the fund and Center were named for Clement and Linda McGillicuddy in 2017, and the Center continues to receive their generous support. Beyond the MHC Endowment Fund, additional donors have created, and continue to create, specific endowments affiliated with the McGillicuddy Humanities Center. Collectively, donations total nearly $2,500,000 through May 2022. Gifts of all sizes contribute to this permanent resource for the humanities at UMaine.

Endowments

Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center Fund

The University of Maine Humanities Center was renamed in 2017 to recognize the enormous support of Clement McGillicuddy ‘64 and his wife, Linda, of Hobe Sound, Florida and Northeast Harbor, Maine. The Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center Fund advances teaching, research and public knowledge of the humanities. By developing and supporting programs that engage art, literature, history, philosophy, politics and diverse cultures, MHC aims to enrich the lives of all Maine citizens.

University of Maine Humanities Center Endowment Fund

Launched in 2010, the University of Maine Humanities Center Endowment Fund supports the Center’s mission. Earned income provides annual support for programs, research and community engagement. The fund is a general repository for gifts of any amount. Additional donors have created specific endowments affiliated with the humanities.

Affiliated Funds are established to support activities consistent with the mission of MHC and can be managed in collaboration with other UMaine units.

Susan and Philip Hamilton Humanities Fund, established by Susan Hamilton and Philip Hamilton ’85 to support humanities faculty and community engagement.

Sandy and Bobby Ives Fund, established by David Taylor ’74 and LeeEllen Friedland in recognition of the Ives’ contributions to folklife studies. The fund supports UMaine student research, conference travel or ethnographic fieldwork training relating to the fields of ethnography, oral history, folklore, or regional studies of Maine or the Maritime Provinces of Canada.

Alan Miller Fund for Excellence in Communication and Journalism, established by Anne Lucey ’81 in memory of her late husband.

Jeannine Emond Lucey Franco-American Program Fund, established by Anne Lucey ’81 in tribute to her mother.

Adrien Lanthier Ringuette Franco-American Centre Library Fund, established by Celeste Ringuette in memory of her late husband.

Richard Parks Anderson and Karin M. Anderson Music Composition Fund, established to provide financial assistance to the School of Performing Arts’ Music Division in support of the composition of musical works by UMaine faculty and students, and performances by UMaine faculty and students of those works and other works by living composers.
Sandra Merrill Peters and John G. Peters
Humanities Fellowship Fund, established by Sandra Merrill Peters ’69 and John G. Peters ’69, provides support to a Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center Undergraduate Fellow who is from Maine.

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Scholarship Fund, established by Kathryn Olmstead (emerita, Department of Communication and Journalism) to support meritorious students with a financial need in the arts and humanities.

Wickham Skinner “Making Things Better” Humanities Fund, established to support an annual award to a faculty member whose recent scholarly accomplishment has contributed substantially to the humanities.

Global Perspectives for Humanities Explorations Fund, established by Friends of the Salzburg Study Abroad Program, led by Jessica Canatasey ’92 and Tracey Graffam-Dickson ’93, in honor of Josef Roggenbauer, professor emeritus of German, provides support for faculty and students to benefit from opportunities that expand their global views, ideas and experiences.

Eaton Family New Writing Series Fund, established by John T. Eaton ’66 and Linda Talbot Eaton ’66 to support innovative and adventurous literary programming through the New Writing Series.

The Schmelzer-Livingston Center for Poetry and Poetics Fund, established by Henry Schmelzer ’65 and his wife, Cynthia Livingston, to support ongoing and new initiatives at the Center for Poetry and Poetics at UMaine.

Echoes of Maine Humanities Fund, established by founding editor/publisher of Echoes magazine, Kathryn Olmstead, in support of faculty and student engagement in research, community events, lectures and collaborative activities that highlight positive values rooted in the past that have relevance for the present and the future.

Claire Labrie Strickland ’75 Scholarship, established by friends and family in honor of Claire’s retirement, to provide scholarship funding to upperclassmen in the humanities who have demonstrated financial need, with a preference for those who are the first in their family to pursue a post-secondary education.

Opportunities in Journalism Fund, established by Brian A. Naylor ’78, ’04H and Barbara J. Van Woerkom. The fund is intended to provide financial assistance to undergraduate students majoring in journalism.

Dr. Robert M. and Jean W. Swan Humanities Scholarship Fund, established by the Swans, to provide financial assistance to undergraduate students enrolled in health and related sciences who may wish to pursue additional studies in the humanities.

Brennan Family Scholarship, established by Michael Brennan, Ph.D. ’19 in memory of his mother, Tara Brennan O’Meara, to benefit students with demonstrated financial need who are majoring in any humanities disciplines.

Patricia S. O’Brien Humanities Fellowship Fund, established by Matt Mullen ’08 in honor of his mother to support a Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center Undergraduate Fellow with a preference for a student who is majoring in history.

Wabanaki Student Support Fund, established by Barbara Bassler Keast ’63, to provide Native American students enrolled in the humanities disciplines short-term immediate financial assistance, to help ensure that they will have tools and resources needed to succeed in their pursuit of a degree.

David ’64, ’67G and Alison ’71 Wiggin Humanities Fellowship, established by David Wiggin ’64, ’67G in memory of his wife, Alison, to support a Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center Undergraduate Fellow with a preference for a student who is majoring in English or Modern Languages from southern Aroostook County.
MHC Gifts, Endowments and Funds (cont.)

Liam Riordan Humanities Fellowship Fund, established by Tim Garrity ’14G and Lynn Boulger, in honor of history professor Liam Riordan, to celebrate his 25th year on the UMaine faculty. It supports a Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center Undergraduate Fellow with a preference for a student who is majoring in history.

Global Exploration & Language Opportunities Fund, established by Charles Ryan ’84, provides support to students who wish to expand their global views through international travel to Central and South American countries.

Dr. Herbert E. Whiteley ’73 and Yvette Poirier Whiteley ’74 Fund, established by the Whiteleys to enrich the University community by providing support for visiting musicians and scholars in the humanities.

Patrons Circle

Patrons provide an annual gift of $1,000 in support of MHC initiatives.

Richard P. Anderson and Karin Anderson
Constance H. Babcock
Douglas C. Baston
David Canatsey and Jessica Canatsey
Sheila E. Comerford and Stephen W. Gove
Dennis Cox and Elizabeth Downing
Corey L. Davis
Steven Evans, Ph.D. and Jennifer Moxley
Timothy Garrity and Lynn Boulger
Philip Hamilton and Susan Hamilton
Jeffrey E. Hecker, Ph.D. and Judith L. Stickles
Susan J. Hunter, Ph.D. and David H. Lambert, Ph.D.
Faye W. Gilbert, Ph.D.
Jim Jenkins and Anne Jenkins
Stephen E. King and Tabitha Spruce King
Clement E. McGillicuddy and Linda McGillicuddy
Matt Mullen and Emily Mullen
Joan Ferrini-Mundy, Ph. D. and Richard A. Mundy
Brian Naylor and Barbara Van Woerkom
Kathryn Olmstead
Daniel P. Ostrey and Hannah Ostrey
John Peters and Sandra Peters
Charles H. Ryan
Henry L.P. Schmelzer and Cynthia E. Livingston
Lauren A. Sterling and William D. Adams
Terry Strickland and Claire Strickland
Robert M. Swan and Jean W. Swan
David Taylor and LeeEllen Friedland
John K. Veroneau and Carol Svoboda
David C. Wiggin
James S. Ward IV and Susan C. Ward
Yvette Poirier Whiteley and Dr. Herbert E. Whiteley
Board of Advisors

The Center’s Board of Advisors is a standing committee composed of University of Maine alumni and friends who advance the McGillicuddy Humanities Center’s mission. Leading by example as ambassadors, advisors and supporters, the Board of Advisors acts as a conduit for information and opinion to and from the MHC, broadly sharing the programs and mission of the Center. In addition to contributing their time and expertise, all members of the BOA have made gifts and pledges to support MHC activities, or have included the MHC in their estate plans.

Chair

Tim Garrity ’14G, Historian, Mount Desert Island Historical Society

Outgoing Co-Chairs

Kathryn Olmstead, Associate Professor emerita in Communication and Journalism, University of Maine; retired columnist for Bangor Daily News, and editor/co-founder of Echoes magazine

Henry L.P. Schmelzer ’65, former Chair, Maine Public Broadcasting (MPBN) Board of Trustees; former President and CEO, Maine Community Foundation

Members

H. Allen Fernald ’54 and Sally Fernald ’55, owner/publishers of Down East magazine
Richard P. Anderson, ’73, founder, Richard Parks Furniture (retired) and Karin Anderson, psychiatrist (retired)
LeeEllen Friedland, President, Ethnologica
Philip Hamilton, ’85, Advisory Committee Chairman, AEye, Inc.
Jeffrey Hecker ’86 Ph.D., Professor of Psychology, University of Maine
Brian Naylor ’78, Washington Correspondent, National Public Radio (NPR) (retired)
Sarah Penney, ’21, Communications Associate, Vaccine Innovation & Global Immunization, Sabin Vaccine Institute
Sandra Peters ’69, Educator (retired)
Lauren Sterling ’10, Philanthropy Consultant
Dr. Robert Swan, ’68, dentist (retired) and Jean W. Swan, educator (retired)
David A. Taylor ’74, External Relations and Program Development Officer, Library of Congress (retired)
John K. Veroneau ’83, Partner, Covington & Burling, LLP

Ex Officio

Emily Haddad, Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Maine